

~~in response to the receiving step, said subsystem monitoring said characteristic, and status of said subsystem;~~

~~and if and approximately when said minimum numerical amount of said change subsequently occurs in said said characteristic status, said subsystem reporting a value of said characteristic or said an amount of change of said characteristic to said host system,~~

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~~if no change occurs or less than said minimum numerical amount of change occurs before a predetermined time-out, but not said subsystem reporting to said host system a value of said characteristic or an amount of change of to said characteristic said host system upon said predetermined time-out. when no change occurs or less than said minimum numerical amount of change occurs.~~

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Cancels claim 55.

56.(currently amended) A method as set forth in claim 54 wherein said characteristic status of said subsystem ~~includes~~ is a characteristic status of a component coupled to said subsystem.

57.(currently amended) A method as set forth in claim 54 wherein said characteristic is a temperature of said subsystem status of said subsystem comprises status of a device, component or board slot within said subsystem.

58. (previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 54 further comprising the steps of:

before the receiving step, establishing a communication link between said host system and said subsystem;

after the receiving step but before the reporting step, terminating said communication link; and

after the terminating step but before said reporting step, establishing a communication link between said host system and said subsystem for said reporting.

59.(previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 58 wherein each of said communication links comprises SCSI commands and protocol.

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60.(currently amended) A method as set forth in claim 54 wherein said subsystem comprises a SAF-TE enclosure, and said characteristic status of said subsystem pertains to said SAF-TE enclosure.

61.(currently amended) A method as set forth in claim 54 wherein said subsystem comprises a SAF-TE enclosure and programming to support periodic SAF-TE polls made by said host system for said characteristic status of said subsystem, and further comprising the step of said subsystem receiving periodic SAF-TE polls made by said host system, and said subsystem responding to said periodic SAF-TE polls by promptly reporting said characteristic status of said subsystem for each of said polls, whether or not said characteristic said status has changed.

62.(currently amended) A computer system comprising a host system and a subsystem coupled to said host system, said computer system comprising:

first programming in said host system to generate and send a request to said subsystem to monitor a numerically variable characteristics status of said subsystem and report to said host system a value of said characteristic or an amount of change of in said characteristic status when a minimum numerical amount of change in said characteristic occurs, but not report a change to said host system when no change occurs or less than said minimum numerical amount of change occurs, said request specifying said numerical minimum amount of said change;

~~second programming in said subsystem to respond to said request by monitoring said characteristic status of said subsystem, and~~

~~if and approximately when said minimum numerical amount of said change subsequently occurs, reporting to said host system a value of said characteristic or an amount of said change of to said characteristic, said host system,~~

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if but not reporting a change to said host system when no change occurs or less than said minimum numerical amount of change occurs before a predetermined time-out, said subsystem reporting to said host system a value of said characteristic or an amount of change of said characteristic upon said predetermined time-out.~~

~~Cancels~~ claim 63.

64.(currently amended) A system as set forth in claim 62 wherein said characteristic status of said subsystem includes a characteristic status of a component coupled to said subsystem.

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65.(currently amended) A system as set forth in claim 62 wherein said characteristic is a temperature status of said subsystem. ~~comprises status of a device, component or board slot within said subsystem.~~

66.(previously presented) A system as set forth in claim 62 further comprising:

means for establishing a communication link between said host system and said subsystem before said first programming sends said request to said subsystem;

means for terminating said communication link after said first programming sends said request but before said subsystem responds to said request; and

means for establishing a communication link between said host system and said subsystem after said terminating of said communication link but before said subsystem responds to said request, to enable said subsystem to report said status.

67.(previously presented) A system as set forth in claim 66 wherein each of said communication links comprises SCSI commands and protocol.

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68.(currently amended) A system as set forth in claim 62 wherein said subsystem comprises a SAF-TE enclosure, and said characteristic status of said subsystem pertains to said SAF-TE enclosure.

69.(currently amended) A system as set forth in claim 62 wherein said subsystem comprises a SAF-TE enclosure; and further comprising third programming within said subsystem to respond to said periodic SAF-TE polls by promptly reporting said characteristic status of said subsystem for each of said polls, whether or not said characteristic status has changed.

70.(currently amended) A method for communicating to a host system a change in numerically variable characteristic status of a subsystem coupled to said host system, said method comprising the steps of:

 said subsystem receiving a request from by said host system to monitor said numerically variable characteristic a status of said subsystem and report to said host system a value of said characteristic or an amount of change of in said characteristic status when said change occurs; or in absence of said change during a predetermined period following said request, report no change in said status, but not report lack of change of said status before said predetermined period lapses;

 in response to the receiving step, said subsystem monitoring said characteristic status of said subsystem, and

~~if and approximately when a change occurs in said characteristic, status before said predetermined period lapses; said subsystem reporting a value of said characteristic or an amount of said change of in said characteristic status to said host system, and wherein before said change occurs, said subsystem not reporting said status of said subsystem to said host system; and~~

~~if a change does not occur in said characteristic status before a said predetermined period lapses, said subsystem reporting a value of said characteristic or no change in said characteristic status to said host system upon lapse of said predetermined period.~~

71.(currently amended) A method as set forth in claim 70 wherein said characteristic status of said subsystem includes a characteristic status of a component coupled to said subsystem.

72.(currently amended) A method as set forth in claim 70 wherein said characteristic is temperature, status of said subsystem comprises status of a device, component or board slot within said subsystem.

73.(previously presented) ^{currently amended} A method as set forth in claim 70 further comprising the steps of:

before the receiving step, establishing a communication link between said host system and said subsystem;

after the receiving step but before the reporting step, terminating said communication link; and

after the terminating step but before said reporting step, establishing a communication link between said host system and said subsystem to report said characteristic status of said subsystem.

74.(previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 73 wherein each of said communication links comprises SCSI commands and protocol.

75.(currently amended) A method as set forth in claim 70 wherein said subsystem comprises a SAF-TE enclosure, and said characteristic status of said subsystem pertains to said SAF-TE enclosure.

76.(currently amended) A method as set forth in claim 70 wherein said host system qualifies said request to report a change in said characteristic status of said subsystem only when there is a minimum numerical amount of change of said characteristic a status parameter, and said request specifies said status parameter and said minimum numerical amount of change.

77.(currently amended) A method as set forth in claim 70 wherein said subsystem comprises a SAF-TE enclosure and programming to support periodic SAF-TE polls made by said host system for said characteristic status of said subsystem, and further comprising the step of said subsystem receiving periodic SAF-TE polls made by said host system, and responding to said periodic SAF-TE polls by promptly reporting said characteristic status of said subsystem for each of said polls, whether or not said characteristic status has changed.

78.(previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 70 wherein said host computer specifies said predetermined period in said request.

79.(currently amended) A computer system comprising a host system and a subsystem coupled to said host system, said computer system comprising:

first programming in said host system to generate and send a request to said subsystem to monitor a numerically variable characteristic status of said subsystem and report to said host system a value of said characteristic or an amount of change of in said characteristic status when said change occurs; or in absence of said change during a predetermined period following said

request, report no change in said status, but not report lack of change of said status before said predetermined period lapses;

second programming in said subsystem, responsive to said request, to monitor said characteristic status of said subsystem, and

if and approximately when a change subsequently occurs in said characteristic, status before said predetermined period lapses, reporting a value of said characteristic or said an amount of change of in said characteristic status to said host system, and wherein before said change occurs, said second programming does not report said status of said subsystem to said host system; and

if a change does not subsequently occur in said characteristic status before a said predetermined period lapses, said second programming reporting a value of said characteristic or a lack of change of said characteristic status to said host system upon lapse of said predetermined period.

80.(currently amended) A system as set forth in claim 79 wherein said characteristic status of said subsystem includes a characteristic status of a component coupled to said subsystem.

81.(currently amended) A system as set forth in claim 79 wherein said characteristic status of said subsystem comprises a temperature of said subsystem status of a device, component or board slot within said subsystem.

82.(currently amended) A system as set forth in claim 79 further comprising:

means for establishing a communication link between said host system and said subsystem before said first programming sends said request to said subsystem;

means for terminating said communication link after said third programming receives said request but before said second programming reports said status characteristic; and

means for establishing a communication link between said host system and said subsystem. after said communication link was terminated but before said second programming reports said status characteristic.

83.(previously presented) A system as set forth in claim 82 wherein each of said communication links comprises SCSI commands and protocol.

84.(currently amended) A system as set forth in claim 79 wherein said subsystem comprises a SAF-TE enclosure, and said characteristic status of said subsystem pertains to said SAF-TE enclosure.

85.(currently amended) A system as set forth in claim 79 wherein said host system qualifies said request to report a value of or change in said characteristic status of said subsystem only when there is a minimum numerical amount of change of said characteristic a status parameter, and said request specifies said status parameter and said minimum numerical amount of change.

86.(currently amended) A system as set forth in claim 79 wherein said subsystem comprises a SAF-TE enclosure and programming to support said periodic SAF-TE polls made by said host system for said characteristic status of said subsystem by promptly reporting said characteristic status of said subsystem for each of said polls, whether or not said characteristic status has changed.

87.(previously presented) A system as set forth in claim 79 wherein said host computer specifies said predetermined period in said request.